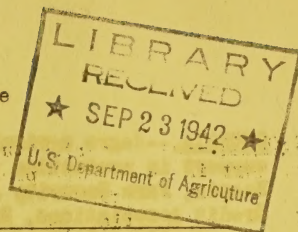


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U.S. EXTENSION SERVICE
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SPECIAL REPORTS ON WARTIME EXTENSION ACTIVITIES OF NEGRO EXTENSION WORKERS

April 4, 1942

ALABAMA.--Emphasis placed on food and feed crops, livestock, and poultry, and conservation. Leader-training meetings held by Negro agents in all counties where such agents employed; leaders holding community meetings of Negro farmers and their families.

Movable school being used to reach remote sections with information on food and feed for defense.

Lamp brooders are being built and repaired; pastures improved and fenced in; gardens prepared and enlarged. Housewives checking on canning equipment so that more food may be conserved. Members Negro 4-H Clubs urged to carry productive projects dealing with food, feed, livestock, poultry.

Negro home demonstration agents, assisted by local leaders, developing plans to assist every farm family in their counties on nutrition and adequate diets, using products from the farm. Also stressing housing with logs, native stone, and salvaged brick and lumber going into building, remodeling, and repairing homes, and in enlarging food and feed storage space. Attention given care, maintenance and repair farm tools and machinery.

FLORIDA.--All Negro agents participate with the Local Defense Council Committees of their respective counties, and are cooperating in all phases of defense program. Food and Feed for Victory stressed. Sugarcane growers urged to increase acreage to supply sugarcane sirup. Special information given farmers on importance conserving farm machinery.

Negro agent one county reports 15 community meetings of leaders and farmers for purpose outlining needs of increasing food production, with additional meetings planned. County divided into districts, and in each district a member of Negro Food and Agriculture Committee, Civilian Defense, will get information on Food for Freedom to all farmers in district through churches, lodges, and other meetings. Scrap metal in rural areas being collected, and proceeds going to churches and schools. 4-H Club members engaged in Produce for Victory drive with Swine, Gardens, and Poultry projects.

GEORGIA.--Negro agricultural workers and farmers of Georgia pledging all-out support in production program. Extension workers cooperating with USDA Boards, Farm Security Administration, vocational agriculture, Production Credit Associations, Red Cross, public schools and other civic and local organizations in Food for Victory campaign. Volunteer community workers being selected for purpose contacting neighborhood groups and encouraging participation in wartime efforts.

KENTUCKY.--Negro extension workers have held planning and local-leader training meetings in all extension counties, and local leadership has increased in all communities. Plans made to meet quota production for war in: Poultry and egg production; gardening and canning more fruits and vegetables; increased pork production; increased milk production per cow; production sorghum as partial substitute sugar; ample feed for livestock. Committees representing about 2,000 4-H Club members organized and delivering salvage scrap iron, old rubber, etc., to junk dealers. Farmers giving full cooperation.

LOUISIANA.--Louisiana Negro agents have planned wartime programs so that each farmer in their parishes will participate. Reports from various parishes indicate activity in Food for Victory program; meetings for training local leaders; production and conservation food; poultry raising; growing sugar cane for sirup; use of home-grown food in adequate diets. One county reports 8 leader training meetings and 52 method demonstration meetings with 3,977 attendance.

MARYLAND.--Negro agents met with county defense boards and assisted in setting up production goals for counties. Educational meetings held in churches and schools to enlighten Negro farmers regarding Victory Program. Agents giving assistance to farmers in improved garden practices, and livestock management. Twelve Victory Garden schools held by agents for farmers and families; goal 2,000 improved Victory Gardens. 4-H Club membership being increased and every club member asked to produce food. Leader-training meetings held. In cooperation other agencies extension workers assisting farmers to overcome shortages fertilizer, machinery, labor; advising on questions of health and sanitation; credit; soil conservation, etc.

MISSISSIPPI.--Statewide meeting called of Negro representatives extension, home economics teachers, vocational teachers, rural school teachers, to plan program for reaching farm people. Negro extension workers have taken initiative in educational programs with full cooperation local leadership. County agents stressing balanced farm production, erosion control, home dairying, poultry development, livestock production, home gardens, peanut production. Home demonstration agents emphasizing good nutrition, production and conservation foods, care of clothes and materials. More than 15,000 home demonstration members of some 640 communities have pledged to reach production goals of food. Cooperating with county health agencies in health programs, and with Red Cross in nutrition and home-nursing classes. Negro 4-H Club members participating in all activities.

NORTH CAROLINA.---Immediately after declaration war two district meetings called for purpose explaining program to be launched in State in connection war activities, with 900 Negro ministers, educators, agricultural teachers, home-economics teachers, key farm men and women attending. State Director of Extension discussed the over-all program as it affected farmers and part extension workers and others would have in carrying program forward. All counties with Negro extension workers delineated by neighborhoods so that all farmers may be reached. Special meeting held for extension agents, at State headquarters, to outline Victory Garden program, after which agents held district and community meetings. Local leaders assisting in program and farmers cooperating fully.

OKLAHOMA.---Negro extension workers assisting in every way in "all-out" effort to produce food and feed. Every farm family asked to produce 75% of their food requirements. Over 80% of families in counties served by Negro workers have signed pledges. Negro farmers will reach production goals in pasture, feed and livestock program. Program-planning meetings held in all counties for purpose determining needs of county and communities along food and feed production lines, under auspices extension agents. Reports from 7 counties show more than 3,000 gardens planned. Increased poultry production under way.

SOUTH CAROLINA.---Each Negro extension agent has held a county-wide food production campaign and a county-wide nutrition school. 4-H Club members enlisted in Food for Victory program. Agents assisting in Civilian Defense work, with Red Cross and TB drives, and in collection aluminum, scrap iron, and paper. 2,952 gardens established last year as result Better Farm Living Program, and there was an increase of 1,500 cows and hogs.

TENNESSEE.---Food for Victory program has explained to all communities. Farmers have been organized and advised of machinery repairs and in some instances assisted in community repair campaigns. Negro home demonstration agents assisting in food production and conservation program through county and community meetings. Negro agent in Montgomery County assisted in dislocation and relocation Negro farm families in several communities, due acquisition land for Army camp.

TEXAS.---Negro county agents in Texas have set up programs and organized farm people, emphasis being placed on importance growing more food and feed. During February, 1,294 days devoted by agents to defense activities; 1,123 meetings held with farmers, and 32,457 people reached. Information was given to farmers in 8,213 bulletins, 145 circular letters, 70 news stories, and 1,182 farm visits. 4-H Club members increasing production vegetables and poultry.

WEST VIRGINIA.--County councils organized with committees formed to cooperate with Civilian Defense Council and other agencies. Victory Garden program stressed. Assistance given in sale stamps and bonds; teaching first aid and home nursing. 4-H Club members collecting scrap iron, paper, and tin.